

Model Essay 1

You should spend about 40 minutes on this task.

Some people believe the aim of university education is to help graduates get better jobs. Others believe there are much wider benefits of university education for both individuals and society.

Discuss both views and give your opinion.

Give reasons for your answer and include any relevant examples from your own experience or knowledge.

You should write at least 250 words.



Plan:

Job skills / cost

Confidence / social skills

Some believe that getting a job is the only benefit of having a university degree. Alternatively, others feel that graduates gain additional benefits individually and are better able to benefit their society as a whole.

It is an undeniable truth that people attend university to advance their prospects of obtaining a good career. University courses hone a student's skills in a particular field to make them more employable and give them a better chance at attaining a well-paying job. If getting a degree would not help people have financial security, the steep costs of attending university would not be worth it. As so many people do attend though, the outcome must be believed to be worth it. Thus, many people believe university will help further their career.

Financial security does not need to be the only benefit to having a university degree, though. Further education promotes higher levels of confidence in individuals, which in turn helps the society grow. Students who need to move out of home to attend university typically improve their communication skills, expand their social circles and mature faster. Living away from home forces students to become self-sufficient. As these more confident individuals move into the workforce, the quality of society will grow due to the higher levels of intelligent input. By helping many individuals, the whole society benefits.

I believe that from this evidence it is clear that while students undeniably attend university to further their career prospects, educating individuals will also aid with their personal growth and the growth of society.

(256 words)